



First Announcement

INTERNATIONAL MARS CONFERENCE

September 19-23, 2004

ISCHIA Island

Italy

Organised by:

Italian Space Agency

Observation of the Universe

Web page: <http://www.asi.it/sito/novita.htm>

Scientific Committee

Simonetta Di Pippo, ASI - Chair
Enrico Flamini, ASI
Marcello Coradini, ESA
Agustine Chicarro, ESA
Richard Bonneville, IMEWG
Wess Huntress, Planetary Society
Luigi Colangeli, INAF-OAC
Jim Garvin, NASA
Dan McLeese, NASA-JPL
TBC, JAXA

SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZERS

Sylvie Espinasse, ASI
Enrico Flamini, ASI

FIELD TRIP LEADERS

Gian Gabriele Ori, Int'l Research School of Planetary Sciences
Lucia Marinangeli, Int'l Research School of Planetary Sciences

CONFERENCE ORGANISER

Marinella Ercoli, ASI – Public Relations

OBJECTIVES

The very end of 2003 and the beginning of this year may be considered the most important ever in the history of the exploration of our neighbour planet Mars. The results coming out from a number of instruments on board Mars Express and on the rovers “Spirit” and “Opportunity” will provide a new insight on the evolution of the planet, as well as on the present conditions.

The international flavor of the study of the Red Planet had already an Italian showcase in the “Workshop on Exploring Mars Surface and its Earth Analogues” held in Catania, Sicily in September 2002.

The ASI participation to the International Mars Exploration Program marks all the main launch opportunities towards Mars starting from 2003 and it encourages ASI to promote this International Conference to become a milestone event.

This International Mars Conference, organized by ASI in cooperation with ESA and NASA, will be held in the Island of Ischia, located in the Gulf of Napoli. Ischia is a beautiful island with important natural hot springs that are testimony of the secondary volcanic activity of the near Vesuvio volcano. The conference will last all the third week of September allowing for an extensive overview of the first results of the researches carried on during 2004 and to express new ideas on the new perspectives from now on.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

September Sunday 19th	(2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.)	Registration
“ “	(7:00 p.m.)	Welcome Cocktail Invited Speech
September Monday 20th	(9:00 a.m.)	Opening Plenary Session Invited talk
September Tuesday 21st	(9:00 a.m.)	Plenary Session Invited talk
September Wednesday 22nd	(9:00 a.m.)	Plenary Session
“ “	(8:30 p.m.)	Social Event
September Thursday 23rd	(9:00 a.m.)	Round Table on Mars Exploration
September Friday 24th	(8.00 a.m.)	Field Trip to Solfatara in Pozzuoli and excursion to Vesuvio Volcano
Deadline for sending message of interest about the field trip		April 15 th , 2004

PROGRAMME

A draft of the programme is also given. This is a first tentative programme and may be subjected to modifications.

Sunday 19 th	14.00 – 18:00	Registration
	19:00 – 20:30	Welcome Cocktail and Introductory Invited talk
Monday 20 th	9:00-11:45	Session 1 : Agencies Perspectives
	11:45-12:30	invited Talk
	15:00-18:00	Session 2 : Remote Sensing
Tuesday 21 st	9:00-11:45	Session 3 : In Situ

	11:45-12:30	invited Talk
	15:00-18:00	Session 4 : Remote Sensing
Wednesday 22 nd	9:00-11:45	Session 5 : In Situ
	11:45-12:30	invited Talk
	15:00-17:00	Session 6 : Interdisciplinary
	20:30	Social Event
Thursday 23 rd	9:30- 13:00	Round Table on the future of the Mars Exploration
	13:00	Closure of the Conference

Field Trip

A Field Trip to the Solfatara hydrothermal environment nearby Pozzuoli and Vesuvio Volcano is planned to be organized on Friday 24th. It would be useful if you can send a message of interest to Lucia Marinangeli (e-mail:luciam@irsps.unich.it) by April 15th, 2004. The fee for the field trip will depend on the number of participants. Detail about the fieldtrip will be given in the Second Announcement.

Call for Abstracts

The paper that will be presented should be devoted to the first results from instruments on board the most recent Martian mission and the in situ observation of Spirit and Opportunity.

How to prepare your abstract

Abstracts should not exceed 300 words and should be submitted electronically to ASI by June 19th, 2004 to Sylvie Espinasse and Enrico Flamini.

Enrico Flamini e-mail: enrico.flamini@asi.it
Sylvie Espinasse e-mail: sylvie.espinasse@asi.it

Abstracts can be submitted in any of the following formats: PDF, Microsoft word for PC and Rich Text Format (RTF).

Name and e-mail address of the speaker should also be included in the abstract. The notification for acceptance of the presentation will be sent by e-mail to the speaker by July 23rd, 2004.

Please also indicate what do you need for your presentation such as : overhead projector, slide projector and video projector.

POSTER SESSION

The invitation to present posters is addressed to scientists and industries. The abstracts should be sent to Sylvie Espinasse and Enrico Flamini not later than July 23rd, 2004. The abstracts should be written in Word or RTF format, with character Times New Roman 9, title and authors in bold capital letters in a space of centimeters 17 in width and centimeters 11 in breadth. The total dimensions of the posters should be 1 meter in width and 70 centimeters in breadth.

The acceptance of the abstract related to the posters will be given within September 10th, 2004.

CONFERENCE VENUE

The International Mars Conference will be held in Ischia Island. The location of the Conference will be published on the Second Announcement. The web site of Ischia Island is www.ischiaonline.it

REGISTRATION FEE

The participation to the conference is subject to the payment of a registration fee. Here below you can find details about the amounts.

Conference Registration Fee	Before September 10 th	On site
Participant	Euros 250	Euros 280
Student	Euros 150	Euros 180
Accompanying person	Euros 100	Euros 130

The registration fee can be paid as follows:

- Bank wire transfer: Make it payable to :
Agenzia Spaziale Italiana
Bank: BANCA NAZIONALE DEL LAVORO
Bank coordinates: IBAN IT 18 F010 0503 3820 0000 0218 130
c/o 6382 ROMA CENTRO TESORERIA
SWIFT BIC: B N L I I T R R

Please state payment reason and your name when you request the bank transfer at your bank.

- Credit Card : **VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS.**

There will be limited refunds (70% of the fees) for the workshop if you notify us before **September 10th** .

Hotel Accommodation

For hotel reservation you will find, on the Second Announcement, all the information about the various hotels that the organisation has selected, with special rates, dead lines for reservation and accommodation form.

!!!!!! NOTE !!!!!

The Second Announcement will be published on March 10th, 2004

LOGISTIC INFORMATION

How to reach Ischia Island

Connections

By Air

Ischia is connected with the City of Naples by hydrofoil or ferry. Therefore, the best way to get to Ischia is to fly to Naples. Naples airport is reached directly by national and international airlines. From Naples airport you can easily reach ***Molo Beverello*** (one of the ports in Naples connected to Ischia, by bus (frequency: every 30 minutes; price: about 3US \$) or taxi (price is about 20 US \$)).

By Train

Alternatively, if your flight has Rome as final destination, you can take a train to Naples. Trains between Naples and Rome are very frequent (two or three trains, including one intercity per hour). Naples main railway stations, Napoli Centrale, ***Napoli P.za Garibaldi station*** (note these two are very close: a couple of minutes walking) and ***Napoli Mergellina Station***, can be easily reached in two hours (by intercity train) from ***Roma Termini station***.

Note that Mergellina railway station is very close (150 mt) to ***Mergellina port*** which is connected to Ischia by hydrofoil (see below).

From Napoli P.za Garibaldi railway station you can reach Mergellina railway station (and then Mergellina port) by metropolitan train (price: about 1 US \$) or Molo Beverello by bus (price: about 1 US \$) or taxi (price: about 10 US \$).

By Cars

Transportations of cars to Ischia can be made by ferrv from ***Molo Beverello*** or

from **Pozzuoli port** (see below). Coming from Rome (A2), from Bari (A16), from Salerno (A30).

First Way

Follow the indications for “Tangenziale”, direction Pozzuoli and take the exit via Campana (exit n.12). Continue following the indications for the Port of Pozzuoli . It’s important to remember that the reservation is necessary for the car embarkment. Please remember to call MEDMAR for reservation, giving the type of the car. Go to the ticket office not later than 45’ before the departure. After this term the reservation expires and, if there is not availability on the boat, your car cannot be embarked and you will lose the reservation without reimbursement. For a new embark you must buy a new ticket.

Second Way

Follow the directions for Port ***Molo Beverello***: The Molo Beverello is situated closed to Maschio Angioino Castle.

It’s important to remember that the reservation is necessary for the car embarkment. Please remember to call one of the companies for reservation, giving the type of the car. Go to the ticket office not later than 45’ before the departure. After this term the reservation expires and, if there is not availability on the boat, your car cannot be embarked and you will lose the reservation without reimbursement. For a new embark you must buy a new ticket

For leaving the car in Naples near the Port ***Molo Beverello*** , refer to Maritime station (pear 8), for parking by payment (tel.: 081.5519588) or near the Port Mergellina - Garage S.NAZZARO by payment (tel. 081.681437)

Ports in Ischia

The connections by hydrofoil or ferry between Ischia and the main land are regular, fast and frequent, thanks to an efficient service of sea transportations ensured by different navigation companies (*Caremar, SNAV, Alilauro, Medmar*).

Two ports in Ischia are served: *Ischia porto* and *Casamicciola*. We will let you know which port is the ***closest to the Conference site***.

Prices and Durations of the courses

Ferries - price: about US \$ 5

	<u>Casamicciola</u>	<u>Ischia Porto</u>
Naples (Beverello)	1h 30’	1h 20’
Pozzuoli	1h 40’	1h

Hydrofoils - price: about US \$ 10

	<u>Casamicciola</u>	<u>Ischia Porto</u>
Naples (Beverello)	55'	50'
Naples (Mergellina)	50'	45'

Timetables

Timetables differ depending on the season. Very frequent connections are scheduled in summer.

Here below you can find the web site of the companies that you can consult for an adjourned timetable (please consider that “Orari” in Italian means “Timetable”).

www.caremar.it - Call Center: 199123199

www.alilauro.it - Booking Center: +39.081.7611004

www.snav.it - Call Center: +39.081.4285555

www.medmargroup.it - Booking Center: +39.081.5513353

Naples and Pozzuoli ports

Naples (**Mergellina port** and **Molo Beverello**) and **Pozzuoli** are the two main land centres closest to the islands of the gulf.

Molo Beverello is the biggest port of Naples; ferries and hydrofoils of *Caremar* and *Lauro* ensures connections to Ischia main port. Connections with Naples airport and central railway station are ensured by bus and taxi.

Mergellina port is the second port of Naples; connections to Ischia islands are by hydrofoil only (passengers only on board). Frequent connections to Ischia main port (*Lauro*) and to Casamicciola port (*SNAV*). Connections with Naples airport and central railway station are ensured by bus and taxi. Mergellina railway station is also very close (150mt): a frequent railway metropolitan service connects central and Mergellina railway stations.

Pozzuoli port is located on the north of Naples and is well connected to Naples by highway (the railway metropolitan service also connects Pozzuoli railway station with Naples central station). Pozzuoli port ensures transportations by ferries to Ischia main port and Casamicciola port. Its geographic position (closest to Ischia) makes the transportation to the island more convenient (for the costs and the duration) for all people who want to bring a car to the island.

Contact Information

For further information on the Conference format and scientific objectives of the meeting, please contact:

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ASI - Observation of Universe

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ASI – Observation of Universe

For Conference logistics and organisation, please contact:

Marinella Ercoli - Conference Organizer

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